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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kristina SCHMIDT et al.  
Serial No. : (U.S. National Stage of PCT/EP99/03104  
filed April 29, 1999)  
Filed : (Concurrently herewith)  
For : DEVICE FOR TRANSPORTING LIQUIDS ALONG  
PREDETERMINED GUIDEWAYS

4/A  
CF  
6/6/01

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. A device for transporting liquids along predetermined guideways, which are provided in a body [(2)], whereby the structures forming the guideways are [adapted to be] attached to a corresponding complementarily shaped opposite body [(1)], [characterized in that] wherein the body [(2)] is provided with recesses [(21)] and [capillary gap forming] elevations [(22)], which form capillary gaps for transporting liquids exclusively by capillary forces, and [in that] at least one liquid supply means (3) adapted to be dosed is associated with the elevations and means [(5)] for spacing apart are provided, whereby between each adjacent elevations [(22)] there remains such a large recess [(21)] , having a width of at least 1,000  $\mu$ m and a depth of at least

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2000/10/17